

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-04

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R 110854Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9069

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1417

LIMDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PINS PFOR GV

SUBJECT : PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE REFUSES TO ACCEPT LIBERIAN
EVIDENCE CONCERNING PLOT ACCUSATIONS

REF: A) CONAKRY 1374; B) CONAKRY 1383

1. IN A DISCUSSION ON SEPT 10, THE LIBERIAN AMBASSADOR TOLD THE CHARGE THAT THE SEPT 1 VISIT OF LIBERIAN MINISTER OF JUSTICE SIMPSON (REF A) WAS A FAILURE. SIMPSON INFORMED PRESIDENT TOURE THAT THE LIBERIAN SERVICES HAD MADE AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF THE STATEMENTS CONCERNING LIBERIA IN THE PATRICIA MORLEY LETTER AND COULD FIND NO EVIDENCE THAT ANYONE NAMED PATRICIA MORLEY HAD BEEN TO LIBERIA RECENTLY OR HAD DEPOSITED THE SUM OF \$300,000 IN A BANK THERE AS TOURE SAID SHE HAD DONE. THE LIBERIAN SERVICES, THE AMBASSADOR SAID, WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS IN THIS CASE TO RUN DOWN LEADS EVEN TO EXTENT OF ENGAGING IN OTHERWISE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.

2. WHEN SIMPSON OFFERED TOURE A DOSSIER PREPARED BY THE LIBERIAN SERVICES LINKING THE NAME PATRICIA MORLEY AND THE CLEAN AFRICA COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDENT ASKED "IS IT NEGATIVE?" ON BEING TOLD
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BY THE MINISTER THAT IT WAS, TOURE IMMEDIATELY RETURNED THE

DOSSIER UNOPENED. TOURE ALSO INFORMED SIMPSON THAT ON HER LAST VISIT TO CONAKRY MS. MORLEY STAYED AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY.

3. THE CHARGE INFORMED THE LIBERIAN AMBASSADOR OF HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER BEAVOGUI ON SEPT 1 (REF B) AND SAID WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THE GUINEANS TO GIVE US MORELY'S PASSPORT NUMBER AND OTHER INFORMATION. WHEN THE AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET THE NUMBER FROM THE LIBERIAN JUSTICE MINISTER, THE CHARGE REPLIED IT WOULD BE BETTER IF IT CAME TO THE US EMBASSY DIRECTLY FROM THE GUINEANS IN ORDER TO PROTECT LIBERIA'S PRIVILEGED POSITION HERE.

4. INDICATIVE OF THE INCREASED TENSIONS IS THE FOLLOWING INCIDENT. THE PAO WAS INFORMED BY A FRIEND AT THE ZAIRIAN EMBASSY THAT THE ZAIRIAN TCO HAD BEEN PICKED UP BY THE POLICE IN THE PORT AND HELD FOR ONE WEEK. THE REASON FOR HIS DETENTION WAS THAT HE WAS CARRYING A POSTCARD WITH THE MESSAGE "JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE" WHICH ANOTHER EMBASSY EMPLOYEE HAD ASKED HIM TO MAIL. IN THE CODE CAPTURED FROM THE COUNTER-REVOLUTIONAIRES "JOYEUX ANNIVERSAIRE" TRANSLATES "THE TROOPS HAVE LANDED." LOCAL SECURITY SERVICES ARE BUSY LOOKING FOR THE CLUES AND PROPS MENTIONED IN THE VARIOUS CAPTURED LETTERS REVEALED IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS. PRESIDENT TOURE MEANWHILE IS SITTING IN HIS PALACE WONDERING WHETHER THEY WILL SUCCEED OR FROM WHAT DIRECTION THE FATAL SHOT WILL BE FIRED.
HAVERKAMP

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